

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A signal charge transfer line, which has been formed on a substrate and is formed to have a number of transfer electrodes, for transferring signal charge by application of transfer pulses to the transfer electrodes via electrode lines, wherein:

the number of transfer electrodes are divided into transfer electrodes of a plurality of sets to each of which a common transfer pulse is applied;

10 electrode lines for applying common transfer pulses to the transfer electrodes of the plurality of sets are formed on said substrate in common for each of the transfer electrodes of the plurality of sets; and

a final electrode line for applying a transfer pulse to a final transfer electrode at an output end is formed on said substrate independently of the electrode lines of respective ones of the plurality of sets.

2. The signal charge transfer line according to claim 1, further including a plurality of drivers provided in correspondence with respective ones of the plurality of sets of the transfer electrodes for applying transfer pulses to the corresponding sets of transfer electrodes;

wherein a transfer pulse applied by at least one driver among said plurality of drivers is applied to

said final transfer electrode via said final electrode line.

3. The signal charge transfer line according to claim 1, further including a synchronizing circuit for
- 5 synchronizing transfer pulses applied to the transfer electrodes of the plurality of sets and the transfer pulse applied to said final transfer electrode.